

Two Join SGIP Leadership: Gregory Obenchain as Plenary Secretary and Barry Haaser to Governing Board

Last Friday marked the close of two important ballots – a runoff election for Plenary Secretary and election for a new Category 13: Professional Societies, Users Groups, Trade Associations and Industry Consortia representative on the Governing Board. With both ballots possessing a field of excellent candidates, we congratulate and welcome aboard these new leaders.

Plenary Secretary

Gregory Obenchain, Edison Electric Institute

As the Manager, Distribution Operations & Standards, Gregory T. (Greg) Obenchain has responsibility for the Distribution Committee, Metering Committee, Electric Utility Representatives Coordinating (EURC) Task Force, and the Electric Light & Power (EL&P) National Electric Code (NEC) Task Force as well as distribution standards activity including the National Electric Safety Code (NESC), NEC, Reliability Survey, Restore Power, Mutual Assistance activities, Pole Attachment activities, Metering and Smart Grid issues. He is an active participant in many industry activities including the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP). He participates in the development of industry policy utilizing his experience and technical understanding of utility issues working with others to facilitate an industry consensus position on the various issues.



Prior to his position at EEI, Greg has worked for the Department of Navy, an Electric Cooperative and two Investor Owned Utilities; in the course of his duties he has performed work in distribution engineering, system engineering and operations departments on various activities including line design, project cost estimating, project bid preparation, distribution standards, evaluation of overhead line hardware (both transmission & distribution), preparation of standard operating procedures (SOP), system planning (both modeling & forecasting), coordination of storm restorations activities, forensic investigation of storm damage, customer relations (both commercial & residential), and worked on several transmission projects as both the project engineer and/or project manager.

He is a graduate of The George Washington University with a Masters of Engineering Management degree focused on technology and Systems Engineering. He received his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Old Dominion University and is a professional Engineer in the state of Virginia.



Governing Board Member Representing Category 13

Barry Haaser, Lakeview Group

I joined the SGIP process at its inception to support the development of smart grid standards and technology. I am prepared to help the SGIP navigate the next phase in life cycle as it develops a plan for financial independence. This is an area where I can help the SGIP Governing Board develop its transformative strategy by leveraging my extensive experience creating industry associations. I formed the Lakeview Group three years ago to help bring emerging energy standards and technologies to market. Throughout my career, I've created and managed multiple industry alliances and trade associations, including the Digital Home Alliance, EIS Alliance, Home Lighting Control Alliance, LonMark International, OpenADR Alliance, SunSpec Alliance and USNAP Alliance.

I have a thorough understanding of the dynamics of the Smart Grid, involving from AMI, residential and commercial energy management, home area networks, control networks, demand response, building and industrial automation and

renewal energy. Furthermore, I bring 25 years of experience in high tech marketing, business development and association management to the Governing Board.

Prior to forming my own company, I spent 15 years with Echelon Corporation, a leading supplier of automation and smart grid technology, where as an early employee I co-authored the business plan and held a number of marketing and business development positions in the U.S. and Europe. I was previously Vice President of Marketing at Alacritech where we invented TCP/IP off-load engines, enabling the development of IP storage and faster servers. I was the Director of Marketing at Saratoga Systems, an early innovator in customer relationship management software. Previously, I spent several years working for consulting and market research firms in Silicon Valley focused on high technology. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from San Jose State University and a 25-year background involving the development and marketing of numerous standards and technologies.



*Voting Representatives,
please vote if you
haven't already.*

Reminder: Upcoming Meetings & Activities

May 17: Governing Board Meeting, 1pm Eastern. Attendance is not mandatory for SGIP Members. [Click here for webinar and phone registration.](#) Agenda is posted but may be updated once more prior to the meeting.

May 25: Plenary Meeting, 1pm Eastern. Attendance is mandatory for Participating Members – a lack of representation could result in a suspension of Voting Rights for your organization. [Click here for webinar and phone registration.](#)

July 10 through 12, 2012, SGIP Summer Face-to-Face Meeting in Portland, Oregon.

REMINDER: LAST WEEK FOR COMMENTS ON THE SGIP 2.0 BUSINESS SUSTAINMENT PLAN (v1.0)

The Business Sustainment Plan Working Group (BSPWG) extends a special invitation to all SGIP Member Representatives to participate in a Preview Round of their first draft of the Business Sustainment Plan. Members may review the draft and post comments until this Friday, April 27.

There will be a second review open to the SGIP membership again later in their process. Note that the actual plan adoption will be devised and accepted by the SGIP Governing Board as part of their responsibilities.

[VIEW PLAN OR LEARN MORE >>](#)



We'd like to hear from you!

Take our 5-minute Membership Survey

As part of our effort to better serve our members, SGIP is conducting a [survey](#). Please **take just 5 minutes today** to complete this short online survey. Your input will serve as a valuable guide to how we plan activities and will be deeply appreciated!

Head to Survey:

<https://app.e2ma.net/app2/survey/1410964/205029519/c43142daec/>

Survey will close on April 30, 2012.

Contact SGIP Leadership and Administrator at sgipgb.administrator@enernex.com

EnerNex serves as the SGIP Administrator under a NIST-awarded contract. For more information, [click here](#).

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